

FLORIDA NEWS NOTES.

Advices from New York are that Florida cantaloupes now arriving there are of much finer quality than usual thus early in the season. The demand is good and fair prices are being obtained for them.

The Florida State Baseball league is getting into action with a fine bunch of players, many of whom will undoubtedly develop for place with the major leagues later in their career.

The Florida soldier boys, who are soon to go into camp on the Black Point grounds, will find it rather a difficult problem this time to be absent from camp without leave. There are only two ways of getting away, from camp—one by way of the bridge, which will be strongly guarded, and the other to swim the St. Johns. The boys will undoubtedly be there this time when duty calls.

The state-wide movement for good roads has reached down into Manatee. The town of Manatee has issued \$15,000 of bonds for street improvement, which have been sold to northern bankers, and now the county commissioners are advertising an election to be held June 22 to decide whether the county shall be bonded for \$250,000 for the purpose of building hard-surfaced roadways throughout the county.

Governor Gilchrist has appointed Messrs. Francis P. Fleming, Jr., of Jacksonville, P. K. Yonge of Pensacola and W. D. Finlayson of Old Town to be members of the board of control, which has charge of the state's institutions for higher education, each for a four years' term, beginning June 28, 1909.

Heavy express shipments of tomatoes are going forward from Daytona and the returns so far are proving very satisfactory to the growers. It is claimed that they will have a clear market with but little competition up to the middle of June. Shipments are being made every day, about all of the truck growers participating to some extent.

The passage of the Leggett bill, appropriating \$166,700 for the relief of the public schools affected by the supreme court decision last fall, will be eminently satisfactory to the educational interests of Florida, especially so to the teachers who have not yet been paid for the extra work they have done.

The senate passed the Cash primary bill by a vote of 20 to 8. Among the important provisions in this act are: A sworn statement of all campaign expenses must be given by each candidate; no candidate can contribute anything of value during a campaign; no literature seeking to injure a candidate can be distributed on primary day; owners must pay their own poll taxes; the ballot contains two stubs attached, both stubs numbered—one is detached when the ballot is given the voter and the other is detached when the voter deposits the ballot, the clerk then compares the stubs to prevent the wrong ballot being used.

One of the most important actions taken by the house of representatives before adjournment, was the passage of a bill authorizing the state comptroller to repay to the counties of Dade, St. Lucie, Lee, DeSoto and others moneys collected by a special drainage tax through an act of the legislature of 1905. The bill authorizing the imposition of a general drainage tax was passed in 1905. Each acre was assessed five cents and nearly \$5,000 collected. In 1907, the legislature passed a bill authorizing the refunding to the tax collectors of the counties wherein the land was assessed of the moneys collected. This bill was vetoed by Governor Broward. The money has remained in the custody of the comptroller the past several years, and by the bill passed the comptroller will return to the tax collectors of each of the counties interested the amounts collected. The money will then be refunded to the individual tax payers.

The legislature has cost the taxpayers of the state \$85,000.

No act of the Gilchrist administration has been more generally approved by press and public than the decision to make public the proceedings of the state pardon board. A com-

plete report of all the applications made, cases heard and decisions rendered is now furnished to the press immediately after the close of each session of the board.

Governor Gilchrist approved the general appropriation bill, the legislative expense bill and the bills making appropriations for the state reform school at Marianna.

Approximately four hundred bills have died on the calendars of each house. This establishes a new record in this direction.

A bill vesting the state board of health with the power to take charge of glanders and infectious diseases of animals was passed by the senate. The recent epidemic of glanders in the Cook stables in Jacksonville is said to have been responsible for the passage of the bill.

The governor appointed J. D. Ferrell of Sneads, Fla., to be supervisor of state convicts.

One of the last acts of the house was to indefinitely postpone, after an hour's argument, the Bynum bill, which sought to require a tax of \$1 of each drinker of intoxicants in the state of Florida. The author explained that his purpose was not to restrict drinking, but to increase revenues.

The Irish potato industry has taken hold of the Perdido bay country and it is proving quite a success in that western wing of productive Florida. Seven hundred barrels from one farm were carried to Pensacola the other day for shipment, and many more are to follow.

The town of Bartow, in Polk county, will give a barbecue June 25, to which everybody will be invited to inspect the elegant new court house.

The "alligator pear" is neither an alligator nor a pear; the grapefruit has nothing to do with grapes.

H. W. Gilbert and son have returned to St. Petersburg from a trip deep into the Everglades with a band of Seminole Indians. They brought back with them the hide of an immense tiger.

At the present time Florida produces more than 50 per cent of all the naval stores used in the world.

It is within the power of everybody to join in the fight on the typhoid, clean and allowing no accumulations of filth in which they may breed. It does not need official action to prevent flies breeding in great

List of New Laws Signed

By Governor Gilchrist.

Tallahassee, Fla.—Governor Gilchrist has signed the following bills:

An act relating to the killing of alligators in the Ocklawaha river and allowing alligators to be killed.

An act to amend section 8, chapter 5,813, Laws of Florida, entitled "An act to enable the council of the town of Kissimmee, Florida, to provide for the assessment of the property in said town for town purposes, and to levy and collect taxes thereupon."

An act to amend sections 18 and 26 of an act entitled "An act to incorporate the town of Fort Myers and to define its territorial boundaries and to provide for its jurisdiction, powers and privileges, and to abolish the present municipal government of the town of Fort Myers and to appeal chapter 5,318 (213) chapter 5,496, Laws of Florida, approved May 19, 1905.

An act to legalize and confirm the incorporation of the town of Webster, in Sumpter county, Florida, and to declare the same a regularly incorporated town.

An act to amend sections 18 and 25 and to repeal sections 17 and 27 of chapter 5,088, Laws of Florida, and to declare the same a regularly incorporated town.

An act providing that special road districts may be established in Levy county, providing for special road taxes, and the working of the roads in said special districts.

An act providing proper fire protection for teachers and students of public schools, prescribing the means for such protection, and prescribing penalties for not constructing, intruding and maintaining the means for such protection.

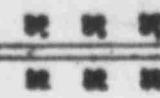
An act to encourage the establish-

EVENTUALLY

YOU WILL USE

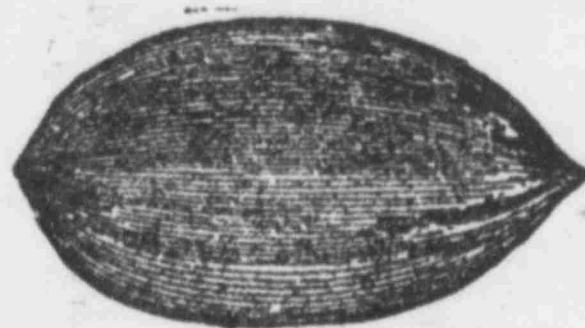
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ment and maintenance of uninclosed game preserves for certain birds and other game; to encourage the introduction, raising and propagation of the same, the protection of such game preserves and game, and the time in which they may be hunted and killed, and providing penalties for violations of this act.

An act prescribing punishment for the commission of misdemeanors in this state when not otherwise provided by statute.

An act to prescribe the punishment for kidnapping a child under the age of fifteen years to be held for ransom.

An act for the protection and preservation of fish in the waters of Lake county.

An act to amend section 2,150 of the general statutes of the state of Florida, relating to release of garnishee upon application of defendant.

An act to authorize payment of the balance due in the construction of a dormitory for the University of Florida at Lake City.

An act to amend section 4,190 of the general statutes of the state of Florida relating to labor of county convicts, as amended by chapter 5,705, acts of 1907.

An act to provide for the admission of graduates of the law department of chartered universities and chartered law schools to practice law in the courts.

An act to prevent the wanton or unnecessary destruction of food fish.

An act for the relief of R. K. Kelly.

An act to amend section 2,759 of the general statutes of the state of Florida, providing for the issuance of certificates to insurance companies, and to provide their prerequisites.

An act to require tax assessors to furnish to the boards of public instruction of their respective counties a list showing total amount of special district taxes assessed in the several special school districts.

An act to provide the confirmation by the judge granting the order to sell real estate belonging to infants is a title of a bill which the governor has declined to sign, owing to the fact that a bill with the identical purpose was signed May 22.

The following memorials and concurrent resolutions have been filed with the secretary of state:

A memorial to the congress of the United States requesting an appropriation for a government building in the city of Palatka, county of Putnam, state of Florida.

A memorial to the congress of the United States requesting action to se-

cure recognition of the four hundredth anniversary of the landing of Ponce de Leon in America in 1513.

A concurrent resolution providing for a committee of three, one from the senate and two from the house, to confer and act with the secretary of state in expending all appropriations made for repairing and refitting the capital building and grounds.

Money Appropriated for Camp

Site at Black Point.

Tallahassee, Fla.—Upon recommendation of the legislative committee that recently visited all state institutions, including the state arsenal at St. Augustine, and the permanent camp site at Black Point, the legislature appropriated the sum of \$10,000 for the proper equipment of the grounds for the reception of the troops during the coming encampment, which sum was little less than half of what is needed to accomplish all the contemplated improvements by the state armory board, which has charge of the site.

It was stated that the recommendation and the report of the legislative committee and the passage of the special act appropriating the sum mentioned came too late to be included in the general appropriation bill.

Government Survey of

Tampa Bay Harbor.

Tampa, Fla.—General J. W. Sackett of the United States engineering department, arrived here with the welcome information to Tampa that the department has ordered a complete survey of the Tampa harbor, with a view to extending the deep water channel of twenty-four feet all the way to the city's water front, in continuation of that depth of channel which comes as far as Port Tampa. The work of survey will begin at once.

Heavy Rains Have

Damaged the Melon Crop.

Pensacola, Fla.—The heavy and persistent rains of the past two weeks have done untold damage to the crops of this section. It is reported that not half the crop of last year will be marketed. While the rains have not been of long duration or heavy in this immediate section they have caused a great damage to the melons, which would have been in condition for marketing within ten days. Last year over six thousand carloads of melons and cantaloupes were shipped through Pensacola.